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## FOREWORD

The purpose of this Conference was to seek an informed contemporary reassessment of the significance of the airborne route in the dissemination of communicable diseases. Much pertinent epidemiological information has accumulated in the past few decades and, in more recent years, technological progress has made possible refined studies of the behavior of airborne particulates in the atmosphere and in the respiratory tract that bear directly on the problem. The importance of the question to medical practice, to the control of the public health and to defense against the use of infective agents as weapons of offense requires no emphasis.

The Division is indebted to the Program Committee for its able organization of the Conference. The Committee, on its part, acknowledges the active cooperation of the Public Health Service and the Chemical Corps, United States Army, in the development of the program, and the unselfish labors of the Chairman of the Conference and the presiding officers of the several sessions in carrying it out.

Funds for the support of the Conference and for the publication of these Proceedings were generously provided by the National Institutes of Health and the Chemical Corps, United States Army.

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